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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Akira HAMAMATSU et al.  
Serial No.: 10/722,531  
Filed: November 28, 2003  
Title: INSPECTION METHOD AND INSPECTION APPARATUS  
Group: 2877  
Examiner: **STAFIRA**, Michael Patrick.  
Confirmation No.: 7610

**AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop: Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

May 26, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 28, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

**Amendments** to the claims begin on page 2;

**Remarks** are included beginning on page 8; and

**Authorization** is included on page 10.